

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:	§	Attorney Docket No.:
Philip Neil Shaw, et al.	§	35365.4 / P60724US00
	§	
Serial No.: 10/524,382	§	Customer No. 27683
	§	
Filed: September 30, 2005	§	Group Art Unit: 1797
	§	
For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR	§	Examiner: Shogo Sasaki
DILUTING A SAMPLE	§	
	§	Confirmation No.: 4708

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence (including any listed enclosures) is being electronically filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office via the EFS-Web system on April 28, 2009.

  
Linda Ingram

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This Amendment is being filed before issuance of a first office action on the merits. Applicants respectfully request entry of these amendments before issuance of a first office action on the merits. Applicants have previously paid filing fees in an amount sufficient to cover all of the claims that will be pending after entry of the claim amendments that follow. In particular, this application originally had a total of 52 claims, 8 of which were independent claims. After entry of this Amendment, this application will have a total of 31 claims, 5 of which are independent claims. Thus, no additional filing fee is due in association with the submission of this Amendment.